

Management of Baby Chicks, Poults, Goslings, etc..

Day old Chicks, Poults, Goslings, etc.. Need:

Fresh Water

- Supply chicks, poults, goslings with clean, fresh, room temperature water.
- Provide ample waterer founts with bases for the number of chicks, poults, goslings. i.e..two 1 gal.- size founts with base, per 50 chicks, poults, goslings etc...
- Adjust the height of the waterers as the birds grow to prevent litter from accumulating in water trough.
- Ensure that all the birds may drink at the same time by adding additional watering space as the birds grow.
- Prevent fecal contamination of water by providing waterers that birds cannot perch on.
- Avoid drowning hazards by using the correct size fount, preventing the chick from climbing inside the fount.
- Ensure a healthy start by adding vitamin supplements to the water.
- Clean waterers daily.

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•Remember-Wet Chick=Cold Chick=Sick Chick=Dead Chick

Fresh, Dry Feed

- Provide fresh feed appropriate for the species and age of bird you are raising.
- Supply enough feeder space so that all chicks, poults, goslings etc., can eat at the same time.
- Clean and disinfect feed troughs on a regular basis.

Heat

- Preheat the brooding area 24 hours prior to chick arrival.
- Measure temperature of pen at brooding level, no higher than 6" above the litter.
- Supply heat with either a heat lamp or a brooder stove. Correct temperature ranges are:
 - 95-100 F for Poults
 - 90-95 F for Chicks
 - 85-90 F for Ducklings & Goslings
- Lower temperature 5 degrees each week.

- Behavior of the chicks is the best indicator for the correct brooding temperature.

If the chicks are:

- Huddled under the brooder, the temperature is too cold.
- Dispersed evenly around the brooding area, the temperature is correct.
- Gathered around the edges of the brooder guard, the temperature is too hot.

Dry, Clean Litter

- Use clean litter. Provide a material that will not adversely affect the species using it.
- Determine the depth of the litter by the species being raised.
- Completely cover slick floor surfaces to prevent leg injuries in young birds.

Clean Brooding Area

- Clean and disinfect the area with an approved disinfectant prior to chick arrival. Allow ample time for the area to dry.
- Provide brooder guard at the correct height for the species being raised.
- Allow adequate space inside brooding area to prevent crowding of chicks.

Shelter

- Provide shelter that protects against predation and shelters the chicks from the weather.